

In re application:

Carl M. MERRIL et al

Art Unit: 1643

Serial Number: 08/879,139

Examiner: D. Wortman

Filed: June 19, 1997

FOR: ANTIBACTERIAL THERAPY WITH BACTERIOPHAGE GENOTYPICALLY

MODIFIED TO DELAY INACTIVATION BY THE HOST DEFENSE SYSTEM

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

August 10, 1998

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to the examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

31. (Amended) A method for treating an infectious disease caused by [a] bacteria, in a human patient, comprising:

administering to a patient in need of such treatment, a lytic or non-lytic bacteriophage that is specific for said bacteria in a dosage effective to substantially eliminate the bacteria, wherein said bacteriophage has a longer half-life in the patient's circulatory system than a wild-type bacteriophage of the same strain.